

REPORTS

SWCD Staff

-Selene explained that since the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) plan has been completed and approved, the District is now able to move forward with two projects during the in-water work period for 2021. The District plans to replace an undersized culvert with a bridge and perform a channel reconstruction on a section of Perkin's Creek in Clatskanie, as well as a bank stabilization project in Clatskanie. Selene provided an update on where the District is currently at for the two projects and what the next steps will be. Brief discussion was held. Selene also explained three future projects planned for 2022 that will likely benefit from funds through the RCPP. Bill asked how much money the District was awarded through the RCPP plan, Selene explained the District will receive about \$3 million through the RCPP, with a total of almost \$4 million going directly into the county from the projects.

Jeff mentioned that there is a blockage on Milton Creek, curious if a project could be funded through RCPP for the area. Selene explained that Milton Creek is not within the boundary for RCPP, but that there could potentially be other options. Brief discussion held.

-Crystalyn explained that she is still working in the District's weed program until a new Riparian Specialist is hired. There are currently two active projects, a grant to treat Garlic Mustard in the Spring, as well as treat Knotweed at Fisher's Park and possibly at Scappoose Creek within the next couple weeks. The second active project is through an Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) grant to treat less common invasive species and survey for Giant Hogweed. Crys went on to explain treatments she performed earlier this year, adding that she was able to receive funds to have boot brushes installed at the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) office, the District office, and a few other places around town to control the spread of weeds. Crys added that she also applied for two small grants for replanting projects and a pollinator garden.

Crystalyn is beginning to work more and more with Selene on the Resource Conservation projects but will be able to do more as more staff are hired.

Discussion held.

-Jennifer is continuing to design and develop the 2019-2020 Annual Report and 2021 Calendar, as well as continued outreach and edits of the District's website and social media networks. She is also still performing office duties as needed until an office assistant is hired.

-Nathan informed the Board that he spoke with Columbia NW regarding the HEPA filters discussed at last month's meeting and is waiting to receive an official quote. This will require a filtration system replacement. Brief discussion held.

Nathan added that the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) water quality program is under new management. The new program manager will be calling in through Zoom during next month's meeting to introduce herself to the Board.

Nathan also mentioned that two grants were submitted to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), with one project in partnership with the Lower Columbia River Watershed Council (LCRWC).

OLD BUSINESS

- **COVID-19:** Discussion was held regarding Gov. Brown's new requirements. Nathan expressed his concern for hiring new staff during this time but explained there is a definite need to move forward with the hiring process. Discussion held.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) Survey:** The Board was given a copy of the OACD Survey. Nathan explained that there is a new House Bill in motion to change the requirements to become a Director on a SWCD Board. The House Bill's main change is removing the requirement that an applicant must own/actively manage 10 or more acres within counties of a population of 50k people or more. Nathan has requested an

updated population count for Columbia County and is waiting to hear back, explaining that the House Bill may not affect the CSWCD. Brief discussion held.

- **Contracts/Cooperators:** The Board received a copy of the proposed contract for an upcoming project in Clatskanie on Swedetown Road. Nathan explained that the contract would be cost share with OWEB. Discussion held.

Motion: VanNatta/Eagle to approve the Contract for the Nature's Acres project as presented.
Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Cooperators:

Carolyn & Bill Walker, St. Helens, 0.66 acres

Les Watters, Portland, 5 acres

Ryan Drake, Deer Island, 5.5 acres

Motion: VanNatta/Eagle to approve New Cooperators. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

REPORTS

BOARD

-Jeff provided an update on Randy's health. Discussion held.

-Bill thanked Nathan for the District report he emailed to the Board.

-Jason discussed his recent trip to Glacier National Park and Yellowstone, recommending that anyone who can go does.

Eagle/VanNatta moved to adjourn meeting
MEETING ADJOURNED 4:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Chavez

Jennifer Chavez, Outreach Coordinator